

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

ACDA-19 IO-12 NIC-01 EB-11 TRSE-00 GAC-01 RSR-01 /135 W
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R 261530 Z MAR 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, GE, GW

SUBJ: GDR PRESS CONDEMNS FRG ON DKP

1. EAST GERMAN PRESS MARCH 26 GAVE VERY PROMINENT TREATMENT TO ADN ARTICLE ACCUSING FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF LAUNCHING MASSIVE ATTACK AGAINST THE GERMAN COMMUNIST PARTY (DKP). CITING FRG PRESS SOURCES, ADN WROTE THAT MINISTRY OF INTERIOR PARLIAMENTARY STATE SECRETARY BAUM IN RECENT BUNDESTAG DISCUSSION HAD REPROACHED THE DKP FOR FOLLOWING " IDEOLOGICAL AND IN ESSENCE ALSO POLITICAL LINE OF SED IN GDR," AND HAD OPENLY THREATENED TO INITIATE A STUDY OF THE PARTY' S UNCONSTITUTIONALITY. ARTICLE CLAIMS BAUM' S REMARKS INDICATE A " NEW WITCHES SABBATH" BEING STAGED AGAINST COMMUNISTS IN FRG, POSSIBLY TO FORESTALL DEMANDS FOR REVOCATION OF STILL CURRENT BAN AGAINST COMMUNIST PARTY OF GERMANY (KPD). ARTICLE ALSO NOTES SATISFACTION EXPRESSED BY CDU/ CSU ABOUT " ANTI-COMMUNIST" STATEMENT OF BRANDT- SCHEEL GOVERNMENT. IN CONCLUSION, REPORT ASSERTS THAT QUESTION OF " UNCONSTITUTIONALITY" OF SED' S IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL LINE IS NOT NOW NOR WILL BE IN THE FUTURE SUBJECT TO PRESUMPTUOUS INTRUSION BY ANY FRG GOVERNMENT.

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2. COMMENT. PROMINENCE AND CONTENT OF EAST GERMAN PRESS ATTACK MAY WELL FORESHADOW RENEWED GDR EFFORT PORTRAY DOMESTIC POLICIES BRANDT/ SCHEEL GOVERNMENT AS NON- LIBERAL ANTI- COMMUNIST CONTINUATION EARLIER CDU/ CSU- DOMINATED ADMINISTRATIONS. WHILE EFFORT EXPLAINABLE AS FURTHER ATTEMPT TO DISCREDIT " CONVERGENCE THEORY" AND BUTTRESS ABGRENZUNG, IT MAY ALSO BE DESIGNED AS COUNTER TO INCREASING CRITICISM IN FRG OF GDR ATTITUDES. IN ANY EVENT, FACT THAT ARTICLE REJECTS ALLEGED FRG MEDDLING INTO GDR POLICIES BUT AT SAME TIME FEELS FREE TO INTRUDE INTO FRG AFFAIRS IS ANOTHER ILLUSTRATION OF GDR' S INTERPRETATION OF GDR- FRG MODUS VIVENDI. KLEIN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BERLIN00535
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730338/aaaaihkc.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30-Jul-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <07-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971229
Subject: GDR PRESS CONDEMNS FRG ON DKP
TAGS: PFOR, GE, GW
To: BONN
EUR
LONDON
MOSCOW
NATO BRUSSELS
PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005